pressure vessel,

outlet means extending through one of the walls for removing fluid from the pressure vessel, the outlet means including an outlet port,

a pressure gradient member located within the chamber of the pressure vessel through which fluid passing through the pressure vessel flows as the fluid passes through the pressure vessel , the pressure gradient member including an outlet port,

flexible resilient tube means extending between the outlet port of the pressure gradient member and the outlet port of the outlet means for mounting the pressure gradient member within the chamber formed by the walls of the pressure vessel and for connecting the outlet port of the pressure gradient member to the outlet port of the outlet means and for permitting the pressure gradient member to laterally shift inside the pressure vessel to press against the side wall of the pressure vessel, the flexible resilient tube mean having a first end portion and a second end portion, and

means at the first end portion of the flexible resilient tube means for fastening the first end portion of the flexible resilient tube means to the outlet port of the outlet means and for sealing between the first end portion of the flexible resilient tube means and the outlet port of the outlet means.

2. (Amended) The pressure vessel of claim 1, the flexible resilient tube means comprising

a flexible resilient tube,

the flexible resilient tube having a first end portion and a second end portion, the first end portion being mounted over the outlet port of the pressure gradient member and the second end portion being mounted over the outlet port of the outlet

means.

5. (Amended) A pressure vessel comprising

a top wall, a bottom wall, a side wall extending between the top wall and the bottom wall, and a chamber formed by said walls,

inlet means extending through one of the walls for introducing fluid to the pressure vessel,

outlet means extending through one of the walls for removing fluid from the pressure vessel, the outlet means including an outlet port,

a pressure gradient member located within the chamber of the pressure vessel through which fluid passing through the pressure vessel flows as the fluid passes through the pressure vessel, the pressure gradient member including an outlet port, and

flexible resilient tube means extending between the outlet port of the pressure gradient member and the outlet port of the outlet means for mounting the pressure gradient member within the chamber formed by the walls of the pressure vessel and for providing a seal between a first end portion of the flexible resilient tube means and the outlet port of the outlet means and a seal between a second end portion of the flexible resilient tube means and the outlet port of the pressure gradient member and for connecting the outlet port of the pressure gradient member to the outlet port of the outlet means and for permitting the pressure gradient member to laterally shift inside the pressure vessel to press against the side wall of the pressure vessel to provide substantially uniform support of a load on the pressure gradient member created by side impact to the pressure vessel without breaking the seal between the first end

portion of the flexible resilient tube means and the outlet port of the outlet means and the seal between the second end portion of the flexible resilient tube means and the outlet port of the pressure gradient member.

--9. (New) A pressure vessel comprising

a top wall, a bottom wall, a side wall extending between the top wall and the bottom wall, and a chamber formed by said walls,

inlet means extending through one of the walls for introducing fluid to the pressure vessel,

outlet means extending through one of the walls for removing fluid from the pressure vessel, the outlet means including an outlet port,

a pressure gradient member located within the chamber of the pressure vessel through which fluid passing through the pressure vessel flows as the fluid passes through the pressure vessel , the pressure gradient member including an outlet port, and

a flexible resilient tube extending between the outlet port of the pressure gradient member and the outlet port of the outlet means for mounting the pressure gradient member within the chamber formed by the walls of the pressure vessel and for connecting the outlet port of the pressure gradient member to the outlet port of the outlet means,

the flexible resilient tube having a first end portion and a second end portion, the first end portion being press fit over the outlet port of the outlet means and the second end portion being press fit over the outlet port of the pressure gradient member, and

the flexible tube permitting the pressure gradient member to laterally shift inside the pressure vessel to press against the side wall of the pressure vessel.--

--10. (New) The pressure vessel of claim 9, the pressure gradient member comprising

a cartridge.--

--11. (New) A pressure vessel comprising

a top wall, a bottom wall, a side wall extending between the top wall and the bottom wall, and a chamber formed by said walls,

inlet means extending through one of the walls for introducing fluid to the pressure vessel,

outlet means extending through one of the walls for removing fluid from the pressure vessel, the outlet means including an outlet port,

a pressure gradient member located within the chamber of the pressure vessel through which fluid passing through the pressure vessel flows as the fluid passes through the pressure vessel, the pressure gradient member including an outlet port,

a flexible resilient tube extending between the outlet port of the pressure gradient member and the outlet port of the outlet means for mounting the pressure gradient member within the chamber formed by the walls of the pressure vessel and for connecting the outlet port of the pressure gradient member to the outlet port of the outlet means, and

means for providing substantially uniform support of a load on the pressure gradient member created by side impact to the pressure vessel by permitting the pressure gradient member to laterally shift inside the pressure vessel to press against

the side wall of the pressure vessel.--

--12. (New) The pressure vessel of claim 11, the pressure gradient member comprising

a cartridge.--

--13. (New) A pressure vessel comprising

a top wall, a bottom wall, a side wall extending between the top wall and the bottom wall, and a chamber formed by said walls,

inlet means extending through one of the walls for introducing fluid to the pressure vessel,

outlet means extending through one of the walls for removing fluid from the pressure vessel, the outlet means including an outlet port,

a pressure gradient member located within the chamber of the pressure vessel through which fluid passing through the pressure vessel flows as the fluid passes through the pressure vessel, the pressure gradient member including an outlet port,

a flexible resilient tube extending between the outlet port of the pressure gradient member and the outlet port of the outlet means for mounting the pressure gradient member within the chamber formed by the walls of the pressure vessel and for connecting the outlet port of the pressure gradient member to the outlet port of the outlet means, the flexible resilient tube having a first end portion and a second end portion,

the flexible tube permitting the pressure gradient member to laterally shift inside the pressure vessel to press against the side wall of the pressure vessel,

means at the first end portion of the flexible resilient tube for fastening the

first end portion of the flexible resilient tube to the outlet port of the outlet means, and

means at the second end portion of the flexible resilient tube for fastening the second end portion of the flexible resilient tube to the outlet port of the pressure gradient member.--

--14. (New) The pressure vessel of claim 13, the pressure gradient member comprising

a cartridge.--